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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,678	02/17/2006	Norio Nakajima	2006_0185A	2801
52349 7590 03/20/2008 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK L.L.P. 2033 K. STREET, NW SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
EXAMINER				
HA, NGUYEN T				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2831				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/20/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/568,678

Applicant(s)

NAKAJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

NGUYEN T. HA

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-893)
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 0206

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsui (US 5,982,050).

Regarding claim 1, Matsui the **prior art** discloses capacitor device (figure 2), characterized by including:

- a plurality of electric double layer capacitors (100) which are connected in series; and
- a balance transistor portion in which m (which is an integer of two or above) resistors having an equivalent resistance are connected in parallel (106, 108);
- the balance resistor portion being connected in parallel to each electric double layer capacitor (figure 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claim 2, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of the resistance of the balance resistor portion is equal to, or less than one fourth the resistance of each resistor which forms the balance resistor portion.

With respect to claim 3, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of the resistance of the balance resistor portion is equal to or more than one-sixth, and the resistance of each resistor which forms the balance resistor portion.

With respect to claim 4, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of the resistance of the balance resistor portion is equal to or more than one-sixth, and the resistance of each resistor which forms the balance resistor portion and is equal to or less than one-fourth this resistance.

With respect to claim 5, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of the resistance of the balance resistor portion is 100 ohm or above and 500 ohm or below.

With respect to claim 6, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of the number of electric double layer capacitors connected in series is set so that a bias voltage given to each electric double layer capacitor is lower than the rated voltage of the electric double layer capacitor.

With respect to claim 7, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of one or a plurality of electric double layer capacitors are further connected in parallel to the balance resistor portion.

3. Claims 8-9 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 8, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a wiring pattern in which a plurality of electric double layer capacitors are connected in parallel characterized in that the wiring pattern includes three or more wiring patterns disposed at a predetermined interval.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Citation Relevant of Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Ernsberger et al. (US 6,856,516) disclose ball grid array resistor capacitor network.
- b. Kennedy, III et al. (US 6,285,542) disclose ultra-small resistor capacitor.
- c. Mandai et al. (US 5,495,387) disclose RC array.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NGUYEN T. HA whose telephone number is (571)272-1974. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F. Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nguyen T Ha/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2831